



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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Meeting Minutes 02/27/2006

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
 MINUTES OF MEETING
 7:30 PM O'NEILL ROOM, COMMUNITY SAFETY BUILDING
 2/27/06

ATTENDEES:

McGaffigan*	Fey*	Dunn*	O'Neill	Mahoney*
DeCoursey	Connors	Simmons	Bayer*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Ferrara*	Franclemont*	Jones*	Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning*	Carman*	Kneeland*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: John Belskis

MINUTES of 2/22/06 meeting were accepted as printed. Unanimous.

DART 57 Geographic Information System: Belskis would like the Town to be exempted from the provisions of 40B, the state law that allows developers in towns w/o minimum affordable housing to bypass local zoning regulations. He says that one exemption is for towns that have more than 1.5% of the buildable land in affordable housing. A study done by the Planning Dept reported 0.9%, later increased to 1.2%. Belskis believes this study was flawed. The TAC discussed this matter & Dunn explained the procedure used which followed State guidelines. Belskis would like to change these guidelines to classify private cemeteries, for example, as unbuildable. He belongs to a regional group, Reform 40B, that intends to change the law. He requested funds to update the GIS database. VOTED no action. Unanimous

BUD 15 ZBA: GenGovt SubCom (Howard) recommended the budget as printed explaining that the board had given up its stipend. This was not reflected in the FY06 budget. VOTED \$21,968 Unanimous.

BUD 13 Planning & Community Development: GenGovt SubCom (Howard) made several small corrections. He reported that the current balance in the ConCom fines & fees account is \$3314. The Manager is interviewing candidates for the assistant planner. VOTED \$203,394.

BUD 14 ARB: GenGovt SubCom (Howard) reviewed the way the school buildings are managed by the ARB. VOTED \$407,751. Unanimous. Howard to get balance sheet info on the Central School redevelopment project.

BUD 2 BOS: GenGovt SubCom (DuBois) recommended the budget as printed with some adjustment in the elections budget. She will request details on the office supplies item which she was told was for computer software. VOTED \$115,300 for elections. Unanimous. VOTED \$6000 for Town Report. Unanimous.

BUD 10 TOWN CLERK: GenGovt SubCom (DuBois) reported sizable line item increases which likely would exceed the override promises. After considerable discussion, DuBois was asked to make her best recommendation. She

was also asked to tell the Clerk that the Reserve Fund is under heavy pressure this year and should not be relied on.

BUD 20 LIBRARIES: Libraries SubCom (Franclemont) recommended the budget as printed saying it was a bare bones budget but will meet State certification requirements. The library is using its trust funds on operational expenses. They are considering renting the reading room as a function room. She was asked to get the trust fund balance & the cost of operating the Fox. VOTED \$1,766,163.

DART 58 MINUTEMAN SENIOR SERVICES: Libraries SubCom (Franclemont) recommended this contribution be made by the COA from the trust fund they control. VOTED no action. Unanimous.

DART 25 SENIOR CITIZEN (HARRY BARBER) PROGRAM: Libraries SubCom (Franclemont) recommended favorable action for 10 positions. VOTED \$7500. 13-1.

BUD 21b VETERANS SERVICES: Libraries SubCom (Franclemont) recommended the budget as printed explaining that the increase is needed to accommodate the increased number of veterans. VOTED \$173,311. Unanimous.

COMMITTEE: Next mtg Mon 3/6 will include Capital Plan hearing.

RESERVE FUND BALANCE: 78,590.66 (163,590.66)

Peter B Howard Secretary 2/28/06

cc Selectmen, FinCom Members, Town Manager, Library File, Town Web Site FinCom Web Site